

Washington, DC- On Monday, Congresswoman Gwen Moore introduced legislation that would authorize \$2 million a year in federal funds for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation - Community Safety Initiative (LISC-CSI). Ten members of the House representing cities across the country joined Rep. Moore to introduce this bill, which seeks to provide communities with the tools necessary to foster local economic development and combat violence in America's most dangerous neighborhoods. A companion bill is currently making its way through the Senate.

"Community developers and local law enforcement officials often share the same goals - they aim to make neighborhoods a safer and better place to live," Congresswoman Moore said. "For the past 13 years LISC-CSI has sought to leverage the unique advantages that community-oriented developers and law enforcement can bring to the table, working to ensure that gains made in troubled neighborhoods are lasting."

LISC's Community Safety Initiative is a public/private venture that builds formal partnerships between police and community developers in some of the country's most challenged neighborhoods. In neighborhoods nationwide this program has helped build relationships between police officers and the community, as well as spurred local development and investment in troubled neighborhoods.

The localized community partnerships that LISC helps create, combined with tangible building and streetscape improvements on the ground, have noticeably cut crime and violence in participating neighborhoods. Through the transformation of distressed neighborhoods into healthy communities, LISC partner communities are benefiting from local revitalization programs.

LISC has been active in Milwaukee since 1995, bringing more than \$46 million in reinvestment dollars, and helping to create more than 1,450 new affordable homes and 790,000 square feet of commercial space. The LISC-CSI program in Milwaukee has been focused on reducing crime in Washington Park and the SOHI commercial district since 2007.

"Increasing effectiveness of police officers on our streets is a vital component to reducing crime, and we must also make sure that we are creating neighborhoods that do not facilitate violence," said Rep. Moore. "Supporting LISC-CSI annually is a tangible way to bring law enforcement

together with the business community to foster growth and prevent crime in our neighborhoods.”

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